

Stantonsburg Road/Tenth Street Connector (Project U-3315)
Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting
November 17, 2005
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Attendees:

Name	Representing	Phone
Dennis Mitchell	Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)	(252) 353-9059
Ida Williams	CAC	(252) 752-2552
Aaron Shambley	CAC	(252) 758-0335
Rena Louise Payton	CAC	(252) 752-6108
Isabelle Wicker	CAC	(252) 758-4621
Herbert Corey	CAC	(252) 916-7139
Sammy Pugh	CAC	(252) 756-1946
Louise Duncan	CAC	(252) 758-8881
Dennis Buck	CAC	(252) 752-3507
Bennie Rountree	CAC	(252) 758-6733
R.J. Hemby	CAC	(252) 916-0395
Howard Conner	CAC	(252) 756-8594
Christopher Taylor	CAC	(252) 355-5517
David Brown	City of Greenville – Public Works	(252) 329-4525
Carl Rees	City of Greenville – Planning	(252) 329-4500
Steve Yetman	City of Greenville – Public Works	(252) 329-4522
Merrill Flood	City of Greenville – Planning	(252) 329-4500
Tom Tysinger	City of Greenville – Public Works	(252) 329-4520
Harlan Britt	Kimley-Horn and Associates	(919) 677-2209
Chuck Nuckols	Kimley-Horn and Associates	(919) 677-2114
Roger Henderson	Kimley-Horn and Associates	(919) 678-4158
Teresa Gresham	Kimley-Horn and Associates	(919) 677-2194
Sherrie Wilder	Kimley-Horn and Associates	(919) 678-2110
Peggy Hayes	Hayes Planning Associates	(910) 343-8801
Dr. Jim Baugh	J.E.B. and Associates	(561) 889-3790
Larry Spell	City Council	(252) 321-3847
Rose Glover	City Council	(252) 752-0838
Wayne Bowers	City Manager	(252) 329-4436

Prior to the meeting, attendees were provided with an agenda and an 11x17 map of the study area.

Mr. Tysinger began the meeting by thanking the committee members for participating in this project, and introducing himself. The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) was appointed by the City Council, and will be involved through the duration of the project. This meeting marks the beginning of the project. To date, the only activity within the community has been traffic counts, which were performed November 15-17, 2005. Mr. Tysinger continued by giving a quick overview of the agenda.

Mr. Tysinger then briefly described the project, which is a connector from where Tenth Street ends at Dickinson Avenue to the intersection of S. Memorial Drive and Stantonsburg Road. It

will include a grade separation at Tenth Street and the CSX railroad line; this study will determine whether Tenth Street will cross over or under the railroad.

The role of the CAC is to give input on this project, which will be used by City staff, the consultants, the City Council, and others. It is an important role, and Mr. Tysinger stressed that it will be vital for all members to participate by attending meetings and contributing. Since it is an advisory role only, it will not be necessary for the committee members to come to a consensus on any of the issues; they will be able to provide all opinions to the project team.

Meeting dates for the CAC have not been set. They will likely correspond with public workshops and project milestones, when the project team will have new information to provide to the committee for input. The meetings, similar to the one tonight, will be open to the public and will be advertised prior to the meeting date. They will be facilitated, typically by Mr. Tysinger, and information will be presented to the CAC by the project team. Information and an agenda will be sent to the CAC members prior to each meeting and the date of each meeting will be announced at least three weeks in advance. Contact with the CAC members will typically be via mail. Mr. Tysinger distributed a list of the CAC members with contact information.

Mr. Tysinger introduced representatives of City Council and staff. Rose Glover is currently on the City Council. Larry Spell was recently elected to the City Council. Wayne Bowers is the City Manager. Merrill Flood is the Director of Planning and Community Development. David Brown, City Engineer; Ron Svejksky, Transportation Planner; and Steve Yetman, Traffic Engineer are in the Public Works Department. Carl Rees is from the Planning and Community Development Department. He then introduced Harlan Britt, Project Manager from Kimley-Horn and Associates.

Mr. Britt introduced himself and the rest of the consultant project team in attendance, including Roger Henderson, Chuck Nuckols, Sherrie Wilder, Teresa Gresham, and Ron Hairr from Kimley-Horn; Dr. Jim Baugh from J.E.B. Associates; and Peggy Hayes from Hayes Planning Associates.

Dr. Baugh distributed his resume, and discussed with the committee his approach towards public involvement. His three emphases are on listening, accuracy of information, and on fairness. For example, the CAC will be able to help with the data we collect to make sure it's accurate based on their knowledge of the local area. His two objectives for this process are 1) to be educational and informative, and 2) to have CAC input. This project will emphasize public involvement through its duration, and will rely on feedback from the CAC and the community to ensure that the best solution is chosen.

Dr. Baugh asked everyone on the committee to introduce themselves. Each member introduced themselves and briefly stated their interest in the project. Afterwards, he discussed the general public involvement approach for this project. The project team will provide a variety of opportunities for public involvement, from open public workshops to individual and small group meetings. In an attempt to find a tailor made solution, Dr. Baugh, will perform an as needed individual assessment. Other elements will include talking with the editorial board of the local papers, focus groups with residents and business owners, and newsletters. He emphasized that this process will be driven by the citizens, and that it is okay to disagree with each other. The project team, stakeholders, CAC, and citizens will work together to find the best solution overall.

Mr. Henderson then asked the CAC members to help brainstorm a location for a public workshop. The first public workshop will be held January 23rd and 24th (please mark your calendars for the evening hours). Ms. Wicker said that the Sadie Saulter School is available for

an evening workshop, although parking may be limited. Attendees would be able to park on the adjacent neighborhood streets. Ms. Duncan also suggested Jarvis Church, which has a large Family Life Center. There was no clear preference on day of the week for a public workshop. Mr. Henderson said that the public workshop will be announced to the community through methods such as the newspaper, a newsletter, and/or signs in the neighborhoods.

Mr. Britt asked for input on implementing a toll-free phone number for citizens to call with questions on the project. Calls would go into a mailbox, which would be forwarded to the project team to answer within 48 hours. It would provide another free-call alternative to calling Mr. Tysinger. In general, committee members thought that it was a good idea and that citizens would utilize it. Mr. Corey mentioned that some citizens may prefer to get an immediate answer rather than leaving a message.

Mr. Henderson spent a few minutes discussing the process and the study area. He gave a brief summary of the scope of work for this project, including items such as data collection, public involvement, Community Impact Assessment, Environmental Assessment, and design. Data to be collected includes socioeconomic, historic, and community data, as well as information on physical elements such as the railroads, roads, and utilities. This project is anticipated to take at least 30 months for study, for a construction start date no earlier than 2010. This schedule assumes that state and federal agencies work quickly and that no unexpected problems are encountered. The CAC said that this schedule was not a surprise, and that the City had been setting the same expectation in previous discussions.

Mr. Tysinger concluded the meeting earlier than scheduled by talking about the next steps. The CAC will meet again after the January public workshop, likely early or mid February. This will allow the project team and the CAC to hear citizen comments, and to provide the CAC with an opportunity to give the project team their reaction to the comments. Finally, Mr. Tysinger asked the committee for any initial input. Mr. Rountree thought that some people will be surprised by the length of the schedule. Ms. Payton anticipated that the committee will have questions as the process unfolds, and Mr. Britt promised to answer any questions or concerns as directly as possible. Mr. Tysinger closed the meeting by telling the members to expect information on the public workshop and the next CAC meeting after the new year, and thanking them again for being part of the project.